



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: Section 25 Open Pits Mine - NM0070

CERCLIS ID#: NM000607160

Alias Site Name: Desiderio, Amiran

Address: Latitude 35 degrees 19'58.00" Longitude 107-degrees 51'06.61"



City/County or Parish/State/Zip: McKinley County, New Mexico

Report Type: Pre-CERCLIS Screening

Date: 09/10/09

Author: NMED

RECOMMENDATION:

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. No Further Remedial Action Planned Under Superfund (NFRAP)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> PA</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> HRS</td><td>Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> SI</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Low</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> ESI</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">To be performed by: _____</td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> PA	<input type="checkbox"/> HRS	Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> SI	<input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> ESI	<input type="checkbox"/> RA		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			To be performed by: _____		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Other:																
To be performed by: _____																
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Action Deferred to: <input type="checkbox"/> RCRA <input type="checkbox"/> NRC																
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Site Being Addressed Under the State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No																

NOTIFY AUTHORITY:

<input type="checkbox"/> Removal	<input type="checkbox"/> RCRA	<input type="checkbox"/> TSCA	<input type="checkbox"/> CAA	<input type="checkbox"/> SMCRA
<input type="checkbox"/> Remedial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Tribe	<input type="checkbox"/> NPDES	<input type="checkbox"/> NRC	<input type="checkbox"/> Resource Trustee: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> CERCLA Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Facility	<input type="checkbox"/> UIC	<input type="checkbox"/> SPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
SEND SSSR COPIES TO: <input type="checkbox"/> 6SF-AC <input type="checkbox"/> 6WQ-SP <input type="checkbox"/> ATSDR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Agency				

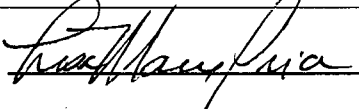
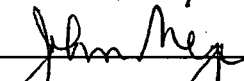
DISCUSSION:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted a site reconnaissance on July 2, 2009 at the Section 25 Open Pits Mine site. NMED observed area of excavated pits and trenches with an adit excavated into the side of one pit. Visible land disturbances lie to the south of the residence; it is not known if the mining extends under the residence. NMED reported that the residence has been built on part of the site, however, the residence appears to be located more than one quarter mile to the east of the mine site. A cut is used as a trash dump with gamma radiation reading of 142 counts per second (cps). The highest site gamma radiation reading was detected at a waste rock pile (558 cps) cut by drainage. The entire area borders a large surface water drainage that may have been created by mining activity, though the mine was operated as a dry mine. The resident does not have a well on the property but hauls water from the city of Milan. The closest well is a livestock well approximately one and one half miles from the mine site with a total uranium concentration of 48.2 ug/l. The land surface and mineral rights are privately held.

In October 2011, EPA conducted an aerial radiological survey in the Poison Canyon area of the Ambrosia Lake sub-district by using the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT). The Section 25 Open Pits Mine was included in the ASPECT survey. The gamma radiation readings at the Section 25 Open Pits Mine site were not statistically greater than background readings in the area.

Although physical hazards due exist, EPA recommends that the Section 25 Open Pits Mine should be considered a low priority under CERCLA due to low gamma radiation readings.

APPROVALS:

Report Reviewed by:	<u>Lisa Marie Price</u> (Site Assessment Manager)	Signature:	<u></u>	Date:	<u>1/24/12</u>
Disposition Approved by:	<u>John Meyer</u> (Section Chief 6SF-TR)	Signature:	<u></u>	Date:	<u>1/25/12</u>